

I CLAIM

1. A surface cleaning apparatus including a surface cleaning strip and means responsive to movement of the surface cleaning apparatus over a surface to be cleaned for positioning the cleaning strip relative to the surface to be cleaned in dependence upon the direction of movement of the surface cleaning apparatus.

2. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cleaning strip is mounted on a support means which is movable between first and second positions by the movement responsive means in response to movement of the surface cleaning apparatus.

3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the movement responsive means comprises at least one motion detector.

4. Apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the motion detector comprises an electronic motion detector.

5. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the movement responsive means comprises means adapted to frictionally engage the surface to be cleaned.

6. Apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the friction engagement means is adapted to be moved in a first direction relative to a body of the apparatus in response to movement of the apparatus in a first direction relative to a surface to be cleaned, movement of the friction engagement means in the first direction being transmitted to the cleaning strip to cause the cleaning strip to adopt a first orientation or elevation relative to the body of the apparatus whereby in use the strip member is in contact with the surface to be cleaned.

7. Apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the friction engagement means is adapted to be moved in a second direction, opposite to the first direction, relative to the body of the apparatus in response to movement of the apparatus in a second direction, opposite to the first direction, relative to a surface to be cleaned, movement of the friction engagement means in the second direction being transmitted to the cleaning strip to cause the cleaning strip to adopt a second orientation or elevation relative to the body of the apparatus whereby in use the strip member is raised clear of the surface to be cleaned.

8. Apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the friction engagement means is mounted pivotably and is provided with an arm engaging the cleaning strip, whereby pivoting movement of the friction

engagement means as a result of movement of the apparatus is transmitted to the cleaning strip to raise and lower the cleaning strip.

9. Apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the cleaning strip is pivotably mounted for raising and/or lowering the strip.

10. Apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means are mounted on an elongate member which is pivotably mounted relative to the body of the apparatus, whereby contact between the friction engagement means and a surface to be cleaned causes rotation of the elongate member such that the cleaning strip adopts one of the first and second orientations.

11. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means project substantially radially from the elongate member.

12. Apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means extend at different angles relative to each other.

13. Apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein there is an included angle of substantially 45 degrees between the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means.

14. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the friction engagement means is in the form of a tab extending from the elongate member.

15. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means are formed integrally with the elongate member.

16. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the elongate member is made of a flexible material.

17. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cleaning strip is mounted on an elongate member, the elongate member being formed with a recessed groove and the cleaning strip being formed with a projection of complementary configuration adapted to retain the cleaning strip in the groove.

18. Apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the groove and the projection are substantially T-shaped.

19. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cleaning strip is configured to extend towards the surface to be cleaned by 2.5 to 8 mm.

20. Apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein the cleaning strip is adapted to extend by substantially 4.5 mm.

21. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 and including means for inhibiting movement of the cleaning strip in a longitudinal direction thereof.

22. Apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the movement inhibiting means is movable to allow replacement of the strip.

23. Apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the movement inhibiting means is removable to allow replacement of the strip.

24. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cleaning strip is made of a flexible material.

25. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the friction engagement means comprises a flexible material.

26. A surface cleaning apparatus including a surface cleaning strip and means responsive to movement of the surface cleaning apparatus over a surface to be cleaned for positioning the cleaning strip relative to the surface to be cleaned in dependence upon the direction of movement of the surface cleaning apparatus, wherein the cleaning strip is mounted on a support means which is movable between first and second positions by the movement responsive means in response to movement of the surface cleaning apparatus.

27. Apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the movement responsive means comprises means adapted to frictionally engage the surface to be cleaned.

28. Apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the friction engagement means is adapted to be moved in a first direction relative to a body of the apparatus in response to movement of the apparatus in a first direction relative to a surface to be cleaned, movement of the friction engagement means in the first direction being transmitted to the cleaning strip to cause the cleaning strip to adopt a first orientation relative to the body of the apparatus whereby in use the strip member is in contact with the surface to be cleaned.

29. Apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the friction engagement means is adapted to be moved in a second direction, opposite to

the first direction, relative to the body of the apparatus in response to movement of the apparatus in a second direction, opposite to the first direction, relative to a surface to be cleaned, movement of the friction engagement means in the second direction being transmitted to the cleaning strip to cause the cleaning strip to adopt a second orientation relative to the body of the apparatus whereby in use the strip member is raised clear of the surface to be cleaned.

30. Apparatus as claimed in claim 29, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means are mounted on an elongate member which is pivotably mounted relative to the body of the apparatus, whereby contact between the friction engagement means and a surface to be cleaned causes rotation of the elongate member such that the cleaning strip adopts one of the first and second orientations.

31. Apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means project substantially radially from the elongate member.

32. Apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means extend at different angles relative to each other.

33. Apparatus as claimed in claim 32, wherein there is an included angle of substantially 45 degrees between the cleaning strip and the friction engagement means.

34. Apparatus as claimed in claim 32, wherein the friction engagement means is in the form of a tab extending from the elongate member.